



November 22, 2007

PATIENT FIRST OPENS ITS SIXTH CENTER IN THE GREATER BALTIMORE REGION

Newest Patient First Neighborhood Medical Center Located at the Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Baltimore, MD, November 22, 2007 – Patient First announces the expansion of primary and urgent care services in Maryland with the opening of its 21st neighborhood medical center, which is on the Bayview Campus of Johns Hopkins Medicine in Baltimore. An open house will take place Wednesday, November 28, from 4 to 6 pm for invited guests from local business, community, company, and political leadership. The center officially opens to patients on Thursday, November 29, 2007 at 8 am.

Sited at 5100 Eastern Avenue, near the intersection of Eastern Avenue and Cassell Drive, the new facility will provide families in Baltimore City and surrounding areas convenient access to primary and urgent care. Parking is free to all visitors.

“Patient First has been making access to medical care as convenient and cost-effective as possible for more than 26 years,” states Pete Sowers, MD, founder of Patient First. “We are delighted with our new facility and look forward to serving the community.”

“We are excited about Patient First being here,” says Greg Schaffer, president of Johns Hopkins Bayview. “Our hope is that those with minor illnesses and walk-in injuries who have been coming to our Emergency Department will go to Patient First, allowing our Emergency Department to concentrate on more critical cases.”

Open 8 a.m. to 10 p.m., 365 days a year, Patient First’s physicians provide primary and preventive care services as well as urgent care. These board certified physicians are supported by a staff which includes Registered Nurses as well as certified X-Ray and Lab Technologists. Patients are seen on a non-appointment basis.

All Patient First centers offer the following:

Primary Care Medicine

Patient First physicians are Board-certified in Family Medicine and are trained to provide the full range of preventive and primary care services. Patients choosing a Patient First physician as their primary care provider can call the physician’s center for a three-day schedule or check on-line at www.patientfirst.com to see a thirty-day schedule to determine when his or her physician will be on duty.

Urgent Care

Patient First provides care for routine illnesses and injuries, offering a convenient, lower cost alternative to visiting a hospital emergency department. Medical services include treatment for illnesses, such as colds, flu, allergies, ear and sinus infections, urinary infections, pneumonia, and skin rashes. Physicians also provide care for sprains, lacerations, and sports injuries.

X-Ray Services

Like all Patient First centers, the new Patient First location is equipped with on-site digital x-ray equipment for routine x-rays.

Lab Work

The new Patient First facility's laboratory, which meets CLIA standards, provides on-site service for routine office labs and a send-out service for multiple chemistry panels.

Prescriptions

Patient First dispenses a variety of prescription drugs, such as antibiotics and pain medications, thereby allowing the patient to go home rather than make an additional stop at a pharmacy.

Occupational Health

Since 1981, Patient First has provided Occupational Health services for employees and employers. These services include treatment for workplace injuries covered by Workers' Compensation, as well as DOT physicals, drug screenings and work-site flu shots. .

Patient First has five other centers in the Baltimore-Washington area: Laurel, Owings Mills, Green Spring Station, Bel Air and Perry Hall. Patient First accepts all major insurance plans, including Aetna, CareFirst, CIGNA, Coventry, United Healthcare/MAMSI, Tricare, and the health plans offered through Johns Hopkins. A list of all the plans with which Patient First currently participates can be found under "Insurance Participation" on the web site (www.patientfirst.com) and on signs posted at each center. Prospective patients may also call any center.

About Patient First

Patient First is based in Richmond, Virginia, and, with the opening of the Bayview center, will operate 21 non-appointment medical care centers in Maryland and Virginia. Patient First opened its first facility in Richmond in 1981 and pioneered many automation-based operating systems and practices that were new at the time and which have been continually improved.

For more information, see www.patientfirst.com.

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